# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	
beIN Sports, LLC,	MB Docket No. 18-90
Complainant,	File No. CSR-8954-P
)	
v. )	
COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS, )	
LLC,	
and )	
COMCAST CORPORATION,	
Defendants.	
TO: Chief Medie Dureen	
TO: Chief, Media Bureau	

### bein motion to file letter of DECISIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

beIN hereby respectfully moves the Commission for leave to file the accompanying letter. The letter discusses an event of decisional significance that occurred today and that could not have been addressed in beIN's Complaint and Reply, giving rise to the extraordinary circumstance the Commission would otherwise not have been apprised of this event in the proceeding. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 76.7(d). The event in question is Comcast's discontinuance of beIN carriage and Comcast's just-launched campaign against beIN, a campaign that directly impeaches Comcast's argument that beIN and Comcast's NBC Sports sand NBC Universo networks are not similarly situated.

### Respectfully submitted,

Antonio Briceño Deputy Managing Director, US & Canada beIN Sports, LLC 7291 Northwest 74 Street Miami, FL 33166 Pantelis Michalopoulos Markham C. Erickson Stephanie A. Roy Georgios Leris Travis West STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP 1330 Connecticut Ave, NW

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August 1, 2018

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August 1, 2018

Marlene H. Dortch Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Letter, beIN Sports, LLC v. Comcast Cable Communications, LLC and Comcast Corporation, MB Docket No. 18-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

beIN Sports, LLC ("beIN"), through its counsel, writes to apprise the Commission of an event of decisional significance in the above-captioned proceeding. As of 12:01 am of August 1, 2018, Comcast has terminated carriage of both beIN networks, causing the screens of beIN viewers to go dark. This was the result of the parties' failure to reach terms for a renewal of their agreement, which expired on July 31, 2018. beIN has requested a short-term extension while the parties continue to negotiate, but no such extension has been granted.

In tandem with the termination of carriage, Comcast has launched a campaign against beIN, including two short videos (one in English and one in Spanish) and a website entitled https://www.xfinity.com/facts/beinSPORTS. The video attempts to lure beIN viewers to other soccer programming, much of which is, of course, provided by Comcast affiliates NBC Sports and NBC Universo. Specifically, the video advises Comcast Xfinity X1 customers to say the word "soccer" into their voice remote to "find a collection of games, highlights, and more." Screenshots from the English version of the video are enclosed. And the website likewise advises that "[s]occer games are also available on NBC, FOX, ESPN, Telemundo, Univision and other networks." These attempts directly impeach Comcast's argument that beIN and beIN en Español are not similarly situated with NBC Sports and NBC Universo.

Sincerely,

Pantelis Michalopoulos

Counsel for beIN Sports, LLC

Enclosure

BEIJING BRUSSELS CHICAGO LONDON LOS ANGELES NEW YORK PHOENIX SAN FRANCISCO WASHINGTON

## Screenshots from Comcast video aired on August 1, 2018

The business agreement between belN SPORTS and Comcast has expired.

As a result, Comcast no longer has the rights to carry this channel.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Xfinity X1 customers just search or say "soccer" into the voice remote.

You'll find a collection of games, highlights, and more.

For additional information and more ways to watch soccer, visit www.ComcastFacts.com/beinsports

#### VERIFICATION OF ANTONIO BRICEÑO

I, Antonio Briceño, have read beIN's Motion to File Letter of Decisional Significance in this matter, and state that, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the Motion is well grounded in fact and is warranted under existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law. The Motion is not interposed for any improper purpose.

Antonio Briceño

Deputy Managing Director

US & Canada

beIN Sports, LLC

Dated: August 1, 2018

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Georgios Leris, hereby certify that on August 1, 2018, I caused a copy of the foregoing Motion to File Letter of Decisional Significance to be electronically filed with the Commission, and served upon the party listed below by electronic mail and overnight delivery.

Michael D. Hurwitz Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP 1875 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-1238 Counsel to Comcast Corp.

/s/ Georgios Leris
Georgios Leris